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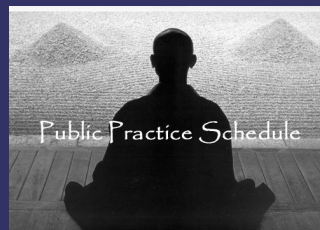
October 21, 2014

HSZC.org



Please help support Our Temple,
Dharma Study, Resident Student
Program & Our Practice Schedule &
Programs offered to the Public.

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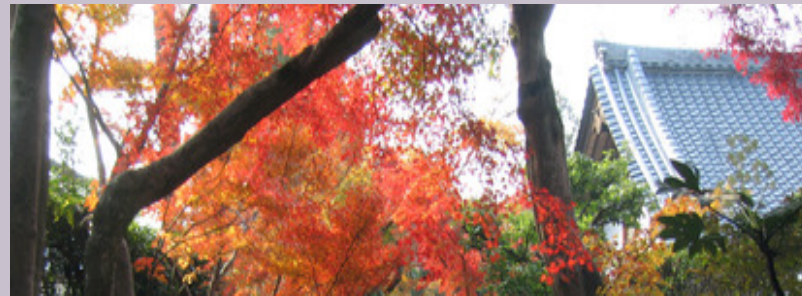
Monday

*7:00 am Zazen

*7:40 am Morning Chanting Service

*Last Monday of each month, no

Sangha e-Newsletter 2014



The Five Ranks (Caoshan)

COMING FROM WITHIN THE ABSOLUTE

The whole body revealed, unique; the root source of all things, in it there is neither praise nor blame.

ARRIVING WITHIN THE RELATIVE

Going along with things and beings without hindrance, a wooden boat empty inside, getting through freely by being empty.

THE RELATIVE WITHIN THE ABSOLUTE

A piece of emptiness pervading everywhere, all senses silent.

THE ABSOLUTE WITHIN THE RELATIVE

The moon in the water. the image in the mirror ---
fundamentally without origin or extinction, how could any traces remain.

ARRIVAL IN BOTH AT ONCE

morning schedule.

6:00 pm Zazen
6:40 pm Evening Chanting Service

Tuesday- Friday

6:00 am Zazen
6:40 am Kinhin (walking meditation)
6:50 am Zazen
7:20 am Chanting Service
7:40 am Soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen
6:40 pm Chanting Service
Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

Saturday

6:30 am Zazen
7:10 am Chanting Service
7:25 am Soji
8:30 am Drop-in instruction
9:25 am Zazen
10:15 am Dharma Talk
11:00 am Refreshments/Social

The absolute is not necessarily void,
the relative is not necessarily actual; there is neither turning away nor turning to.

When mental activity sinks away and both the material world and emptiness are forgotten, there is no more concealment --- the whole thing is revealed; this is the relative within the absolute.

Mountains are mountains, rivers are rivers --- no one establishes the names, nothing can be compared; this is the absolute within the relative.

Clean and naked, bare and free, the visage is in full majesty --- throughout heaven and earth, the sole honored one, without any other; this is coming from the absolute.

Just as the emperor in his realm does not rely upon the ordinances of wise kings and emperors of the past, the eye sees and the ear hears without using any other power.

As the ear does not enter sounds, and sound does not block up the ear, the moment you turn therein, there have never been any names fixed in the world. This is called arrival within both at once. This is not mind or objects, nor phenomena or principle; it has always been beyond name or description. Naturally real, forgetting essence and appearance, this is called simultaneous realization of both relative and absolute.



From: [TIME-LESS SPRING A Soto Zen Anthology: Thomas Cleary](#)



Deep Bows of Gratitude! Jim Shalkham organizing and updating the HSZC Library.
October 2014



Upcoming Events:

Dharma Talks - [Rev. Myō Lahey](#) - Oct 25 Nov 8,22 @10:15am

Guest Speaker Saturdays - November 1 [Jisan, Tova Green](#);
November 15 [Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock](#); November 29 [Anshi Daigi, Zachary Smith](#),
December 13 [Kokyo Henkel](#) December 27 [Tokuden Shinki, Mark Lancaster](#)

weekly meditation group for those
living with HIV, their friends,
families, community supporters &
anyone who wants to join us!
Thursdays & Fridays

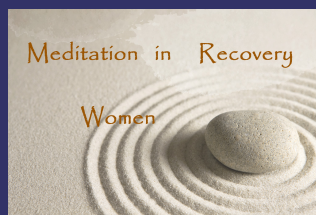
10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing



weekly meditation group for men
& women in recovery from
addiction

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm



(Women only)
monthly meditation group for
women in recovery from addiction.

First Thurs, 7:15 pm -8:45 pm

Full Moon Ceremony - Saturday, November 8 @ 11am - the Full
Beaver or Frosty Moon

Sejiki - Saturday October 25th 11am - The ancient ceremony known in
Japanese as Sejiki, or “Feeding the Jiki (wandering spirits)”. This
ceremony addresses our connection to the “unseen world”, typically
overlooked in the West. All aspects of our life that have been disowned,
disrespected and denied are invited to come forth from exile and be
nourished, a gesture that may have particular significance for members
of the LGBTIQQ community, whose own place in the social order has
been undermined by fear, prejudice and violence .

Winter Study Period - kicks off on **Sejiki** (October 25) and runs
through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (to December 7th).
[Look below for details!](#)

Sangha Council - TBD, Last session: August 16, 2014

Founder's Memorial - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of
the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @
6:40pm

Study Hour - Thursdays @7:30pm: the Vimalakīrti Sūtra, also called
Vimalakīrtinirdeśa Sūtra. There are multiple translations, we focus a bit
on the Dr Robert Thurman version, but welcome any version to compare
the translations. We can share books for anyone who wants to join in, or
feel free to purchase a copy and join us (many are very low cost online).
Check our twitter page for any changes in schedule.

Next Board of Directors' Meeting - Second Wednesdays of the
month November 12 @ 7:30pm You're welcome to attend & observe.

Closure & Schedule Changes coming up!

No Morning (only) Zazen & Chanting/Service on the Last Monday of every
month

October 27th (no morning only) zazen or chant offering
November 27th & 28th for Thanksgiving National Holiday

FALL STUDY PERIOD -

**We would like to invite YOU to the Fall
Study period @ HSZC!**



Periods of focused practice are an ancient and vital part of Buddhist, and especially Zen, tradition. During the Study Period and Winterlight Retreat we will have an opportunity to focus on meditation and inner reflection, deepening our practice of the Buddha Way together.

Modeled on the traditional 90 Day Ango (Practice Period) the Study Period will include opportunities for private interviews with Rev. Myo (dokusan), lectures and special ceremonies, as well as semi-formal meals (oryoki style), teas, and additional periods of meditation.

[Click here for details & how to sign up!](#)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00am zazen	6:00am zazen	6:00am zazen	6:00am zazen	6:00am zazen	6:00am zazen	
7:40 service	6:40 kinhin	6:40 kinhin	6:40 kinhin	6:40 kinhin	6:40 kinhin	
	6:50 zazen	6:50 zazen	6:50 zazen	6:50 zazen	6:50 zazen	
	7:20 service	7:20 service	7:20 service	7:20 service	7:20 service	
	7:40 soji	7:40 soji	7:40 soji	7:40 soji	7:40 soji	
					8:00 formal breakfast	
					9:25 zazen	
					10:15 lecture	
					11:00 kinhin	
					11:10 zazen	
					11:50 service	
					noon - tea & cookies	
6:00pm zazen	6:00pm zazen	6:00pm zazen	6:00pm zazen	6:00pm zazen		
6:40 service	6:40 service	6:40 kinhin	6:40 service	6:40 service		
7:00 lecture***	7:00 Sangha Tea	6:50 zazen	7:30 Study Hour	7:30 Shuso Tea		
		7:20 service				

Words From Our Abbot: Rev Myō Lahey

...One upon a time, a long time ago now, 25 years, there was a time when it wasn't clear who the next Abbot would be, at the big Zen center. The "Mother ship" as some people call it. One possibility was that my teacher, although he wasn't my teacher at the then, so much anyway. I don't know how it happened but someone from a related Zen family came and scrutinized him

and determined it was not yet time for him to be Abbot. It turned out that when they had their encounter my teacher noticed what was going on and said he didn't feel like playing that game with him, right then. Particularly because he hadn't invited him to play that game. Someone else said "go play that game with that guy".

And at that time I was more ignorant than I am now and I agreed with the scrutinizer and thought "oh yes, not ready to be Abbot" and now I look back and it's very painful because I think the scrutinizer is at fault. This particular bunch of scrutinizers actually claim a kind of objective basis of scrutiny. That is "they possess" the touchstone and are entitled therefore, to come to anyone they want to and scratch them with the touchstone and to say "yes, you will go" or "no you're a donkey" or whatever. And while there is that and that sacred drama exists in Zen, there is also a very important sense that it is utter nonsense, utter nonsense.

One of dangers of this kind of practice is it can lead to arrogance, and some circles that is even almost encouraged. And I think that is quite sad. Also though a certain kind of confidence can look like arrogance, but may not have that quality of diminishing others and magnifying ones' self which is the heart of arrogance. Entering into a dialogue where scrutinizing is happening, prolonged dialogue, it has to be a matter of mutual accommodation in the encounter. So if you go to dokusan or solitary meeting, especially a Rinzai adept, they will scrutinize you because they figure that's why you're there. But otherwise, it's a bit much to have someone scrutinize you without your say so, without your entering into that dance, with them. They may do it anyway. They might dance a few steps while you're not looking, but then they should just be quiet about it and not abrade you for not dancing with them.

Here we are sitting in the midst of mystic wonder. Maybe? Yes? Our Ancestor <<couldn't catch name to transcribe>> asked "is there anyone free from the taint of mystic wonder?" And he says "this one spot can't be washed away even if you pour all the waters of all the oceans on it". The mystic wonder is part of the fun. And in itself doesn't possess anything, and if it does, it becomes a taint.

[HSZC Dharma Talk 07 28 2007](#)



From the HSZC Library-

Zen and the Art of Cataloging

Did you realize that the Hartford Street library has undergone a major change? The library inventory has been augmented by about 10% with carefully selected titles primarily focusing on Sacred Scriptures, primary source materials and advanced study. According to our librarian, Jim Shalkham, we have an extremely credible collection of books for both serious and leisure study. There are more than 700 titles overall. Books have now been cataloged using a modified Dewey Decimal classification (and re-shelved accordingly).

What is cataloging? Cataloging is the process of listing information resources (books, audio books and audio CDs, in our case) for inclusion in a database. Cataloging provides author name and title, and access information (call number) for the resource.

Who can borrow from our library? Our library is for members and residents only. Borrowers are asked to fill out a Registration Card with current contact information (very important). When borrowing a book, users are asked to legibly print their name and the date on the Out Card located inside of the book. **Books can be borrowed for 1**

month. Special permission for long-term study is at the discretion of the Abbot. **Some books may be designated “For Reference Only” and cannot be withdrawn.** Books must be maintained in very good condition. There is a printed Inventory available to help you find books of interest. Requests for information can be directed to jim_shalkham@yahoo.com.

Would you consider sponsoring a new title for us? Here is our wish list:

Title	Author
Dogen's Manuals of Zen Meditation	Bielfeldt, Carl
Connected Discourses of the Buddha	Bodhi, Bhikkhu
Numerical Discourses of the Buddha	Bodhi, Bhikkhu
Cooking Zen	Dogen
-- Anything (in French or English) --	Etienne Lamotte
Zen Canon	Heine/Wright
Dogen on Meditation and Thinking	Kim, Hee-Jin
Flowers of Emptiness	Kim, Hee-Jin
Master Dogen Shobogenzo Book 2	Nishijima, Gudo
Nothing Is Hidden	Okumura, Shohaku

What kind of books are in the library? Two-thirds of the books in the library are Buddhist Scriptures, Zen and General Buddhism (including other traditions). We have a number of wonderful special collections: Dogen, Suzuki Roshi, Thomas Cleary, Philip Whalen, Steven Heine, Red Pine, Kazuaki Tanahashi, Thich Nhat Hanh, the Dalai Lama, Pema Chodron and Trungpa Rinpoche. We also have a variety of pertinent books on: other religions, women, racism, Lesbian/Gay interest, engaged Buddhism, peace/non-violence, death and dying, chronic pain, Haiku, poetry, art, history and literature.

Interested? Update your membership today to take advantage of this amazing resource!



Sangha Member Muse -

When Silence screams in the ear
Spoken or written words destroy the perfection of the moment
A glass of clean water tastes of pollution and filth
Sights of a freshly coated snow cap mountain burn the eye in disgust

I breathe in

When a loud siren shrieks, all is in perfect balance
Words read in a poorly written book or spoken from an enemy, joy for
their good fortune arises.
Polluted intoxicants only are offered for consumption; I bow to the
difficulty to obtain and offer the gift.
Garbage in the gutter at sight seen brings rise to love for all beings

I breathe out

Keido - Joseph Fisher



Other Holidays or LGBTIQQ Events:

[United Nations day](#) - Oct 24th

[Halloween or All Hallows Eve](#) - Oct 31st

[Daylight savings ends](#) - Nov 2nd

[Election day](#) - Nov 4th

[Thanksgiving](#) - Nov 27th

[Additional LGBTIQ Events](#) - OR - [found Here](#)



Seeking a **LGBTIQQ, Buddhist** space **for your wedding**? HSZC & Abbot Rev. Myō Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myō can perform weddings! Please email hszc108@yahoo.com, call us, or a better way yet is to stop in & discuss



during our publicly open hours.



Abbot, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey

57 Hartford Street
San Francisco, CA 94114



info@hszc.org

415.863.2507

*Please submit stories, reflections, personal news, artwork & photography for future newsletters to
KeiDo at tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com*

May this newsletter find you well & equanimous! __/|__

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